IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

:

Hideyuki HASHI et al.

Filed March 19, 2004

Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2004 0278A

HEAD SUPPORT DEVICE AND DISK DRIVE USING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. _______.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is subr	mitted
--	--------

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

- a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure

 Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a

 counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of
 the Statement, or
- b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

- For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference 4. is made to: a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith, a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted b. [] herewith,
 - c. [X] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at pages 2 and 3,
 - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed. 5.

Respectfully submitted,

Hideyuki HASHI et al.

By constalled Charles R. Watts

Registration No. 33,142

Attorney for Applicants

CRW/asd Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 March 19, 2004

												
Sheet 1 of 1	*											
FORM PTO 1449 (<i>modified</i>) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE				ATTY DOCKET NO. SERIAL NEW			AL NO. V					
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			APPLICANT Hideyuki HASHI et al.									
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: March 19, 2004			FILING DAT	FILING DATE				GROUP				
540		4 to F FO. IMAICH 19, 200		March 19, 2004								
*FYAAAINED	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS											
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		NAME CLASS			SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE			
	AA					<u> </u>						
	AB					<u> </u>						
	AC					<u> </u>						
	AD											
,	AE											
	AF											
	AG											
	АН											
	Al											
	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS											
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		OUNTRY	CI	LASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO			
	AJ	9-82052	3/1997		JP				Abstract			
	AK	11-39808	2/1999		JP				Abstract			
	AL								i			
	АМ											
	AN											
	OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)											
	АО											
	AP											
·	AQ				American -							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDER							
270 071111211			DATE CONSIDERED									